



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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15th October 2021

Dear Parents, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of the School,

This week assemblies have been about being thankful for the food we eat, saying thank you to all the people involved in food production, transport and selling, and thinking about those families throughout the world who do not have enough to eat. I have also reminded the children about our food collection for the Food Bank as part of our harvest celebrations. We are really looking forward to our first sharing assembly for a long time. We hope to see some of you in the church for this - see below. Please note that we are using the church as a venue because of its size and good ventilation. The sharing assembly is not a church service.

Harvest Sharing Assembly and Harvest Donations – We are very excited about having a sharing assembly for the Year 1 – 6 children (Finches, Owls, Doves, Woodpeckers and Kingfishers) with the theme of ‘Harvest’ at **10am on Thursday 21st October**. Each class will come out to the front to share something. Parents are welcome to come and join us to watch the assembly but please note that you may need to stand at the back or sit at the sides so that there is room for the children to sit and watch. We will be collecting food items for the Food Bank to help those less fortunate than ourselves and those in financial difficulty. Please donate in date, non-perishable items such as tins (fruit, tuna, beans, vegetables, soup etc), jars (jams, spreads, sauces etc), packets and boxes (rice, pasta, cereals, biscuits etc), from Monday 18th October. If every child brought in just one or two items, we would have a lovely amount to donate.

Covid Reminders - Any child displaying any covid 19 symptoms (high temperature, a new or persistent cough, loss or change to sense of smell or taste) or being ‘off colour’ must not come into school, should have a PCR test and stay at home until the PCR result has come back negative.

- If a child tests positive please could parents let us know in school as soon as possible as Test and Trace do not contact us – thanks.

School Association AGM - New Hinksey School Association has its Annual General Meeting on **Monday 18th October, 6.30-7.30, at the school**. It's a time when we review our activities and think about new directions the School Association (PTA) might want to take. Please come along and join the discussion.

After School Club and Morning Club Invoices for September – The deadline for paying these bills is today 15.10.21.

Year 6 Children Transferring to Secondary School in September 2022 – The Year 6 to Year 7 application process is now open for parents to complete applications online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions . The deadline for receipt of completed applications is 31st October 2021, which is quite close and falls in half term.

Please Don't Bring Cars Down Vicarage Road – PLEASE STOP TURNING CARS AROUND ON THE CORNER OF THE SCHOOL, BY SCHOOL PLACE. Please be respectful to our neighbours who may want to move their cars.

Child Refugee Awareness - A giant puppet called Amal is walking from Syria to England in the footsteps of unaccompanied child refugees. She is arriving in Oxford during half term and meeting Alice at the Botanic Gardens before walking through Oxford to the Story Museum and Christchurch meadow on Tuesday October 26th.

Parents are welcome in our school

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – This week Robins have continued their harvest and autumn theme. We have used our developing cutting and fine motor skills to create a swirly tree. We have discussed where lots of different seasonal vegetables grow, which ones we like and don't like, and thought about what they smell, look and feel like. In maths we have been looking at quantities of 1, 2 and 3 sets of objects. We have also started using the 'Gruffalo' story to story tell using a story map and puppets. We had lots of fun on Wednesday in our PE lesson in the hall! Ducklings have enjoyed lots of bear stories and 'leaf' counting!

Finches – We have learnt about the Indian festival of Holi this week. We enjoyed watching videos of the colourful paint throwing and listening to Indian music. We used the chromebooks to create simple coding in our computing lesson. In maths we solved simple missing box additions and practised our number bonds to 10. In English we matched lower case letters to their upper case (capital) letter and learnt the story 'The Bird in the Forest'.

Owls – We have been comparing numbers using greater than > and less than < signs and using a 100 square to find 1 more and 1 less and 10 more and 10 less. In English we practised using 'but' and 'then' to join sentences. We have been learning a North American story 'How Raven Brought Fire to Earth' which we will tell you for our homework.

Doves – This week we have been learning all about Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni tribe. We wrote and drew 'Wanted!' posters. After our enjoyable trip to Hogacre last week, we have continued to find out more about the importance of trees and to research the species we identified there. We have learnt about different genres of music and responded to these. We can now play notes A, B and C on the recorder and have learnt to play 'Rainbows'.

Woodpeckers – We've been busy this week completing our half termly writing and maths assessments. On Wednesday afternoon we enjoyed our trip to the Story Museum for a poetry workshop and a tour of the galleries. In our computer lesson we've been putting the finishing touches to our E-books on Copernicus/Galileo or some aspect of space exploration.

Kingfishers – We have completed our biographies unit in English by writing about Floella Benjamin, a successful children's TV presenter who came to England as part of the Windrush generation. In maths we have checked and looked at our next steps and have enjoyed lots of further challenge work! In art we worked cooperatively to reproduce JMW Turner's Burning of the Houses of Parliament – our wonderful interpretations are now on display. Highlights of the week have included a fantastic workshop at the Story Museum and a valuable IMPS session for Year 6s.

Primary Maths Challenge Competition – Eight children from Years 5 and 6 will be representing this school at Oxford Spire Academy next Wednesday after school (maths until 6pm!!). We wish them luck.

Year 6s – the deadline for returning your expressions of interest slips for the residential is today.

School Photos – The deadline for returning the order envelopes and payments to school is today, Friday 15th.

Best wishes for the weekend.

Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.

Future dates:

School is closed on Friday 22nd October for an Inset day

Half Term Holiday is Monday 25th – Friday 25th October

School is closed on Monday 1st November for an Inset day

Children should return to school on Tuesday 2nd November

BLUE SKY BOOK CLUBS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! - Are you thinking of volunteering in your local community? Do you have experience of working with or supporting young children? Do you love books and reading? The Story Museum is seeking volunteers to become Club Leaders in its Blue Sky Book Clubs in local primary schools. Blue Sky Book Clubs is intended to put the joy back into reading by focusing on the story and associated creative activities to aid understanding. Working with small groups of children, you'll get to share stories, characters and themes and do activities including puzzles, riddles and craft. Each school has nine sessions a term to be arranged at a mutually convenient time - the sessions last 45 minutes. As a Club Leader, you'll gain experience of working with students on a literacy project and knowledge of contemporary children's books and authors. You'll also receive training and support, and reimbursement of your travel expenses. For more information, please email our Volunteer Coordinator: jessica.corfield@storymuseum.org.uk.